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**Thursday**

January 17, 2008

Volume 102, Issue 85

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CAMPUS

## Stand-up comic cracks up campus

Kevin Bozeman discussed drugs, hurricanes and midgits last night in an event held at the Union, which was sponsored by UAO | **Page 3**

NATION

## Missing e-mails at the White House

Many electronic messages sent before October 2003 may have been erased after backup computer tapes were recycled, leaving the possibility of missing records | **Page 5**

WORLD

## Female suicide bomber attacks see increase

A recent rise in insurgents' use of women in suicide missions may indicate a shortage of male volunteers | **Page 6**

FORUM

## Suggestions for spicing up small talk stalemates

Columnist Grant Pardee lists five ways to make your day-to-day conversations more enjoyable | **Page 4**

## Race and gender at center stage

Talk of Clinton's gender and Obama's race seem to be clouding the issues facing candidates in the presidential election | **Page 4**

SPORTS

## Women's b-ball beats Kent State 90-64

The Falcons trumped the Golden Flashes in contests all across the board, with Whitney Taylor breaking a record by scoring eight three-pointers | **Page 7**

PEOPLE ON THE STREET

The City of Bowling Green turns 175 this year. What would you give it for its birthday?



**JENN STEINER**  
Sophomore, Middle Childhood Education  
"I'd make Mac Beach a real beach." | **Page 4**

WEATHER

**TODAY**  
Rain/Snow  
High: 33, Low: 23

**TOMORROW**  
Partly Cloudy  
High: 28, Low: 20

# Flashing lights, collisions at night

BG traffic signals to remain constant after dark



By Kate Snyder  
Reporter

In Bowling Green, people can no longer tell how late it is based on the traffic lights.

Transportation studies have shown that the flashing red and yellow lights that occur late at night and early in the morning can actually contribute to accidents, prompting Bowling Green to change the way its lights operate.

According to a report on the Federal Highway Administration Web site, removing the "flash mode" from traffic lights caused a 78 percent estimated reduction in right-angle collisions and a 32 percent estimated reduction in overall collisions.

"Eighteen of 28 [traffic lights in Bowling Green] previously were in flash mode," said Lori Tretter, assistant municipal administrator. So now Bowling

See **SIGNALS** | Page 2

ILLUSTRATION BY CHRIS WEST | THE BG NEWS

# Former U.N. delegate indicted on conspiracy

By Lara Jakes Jordan  
The Associated Press



**Mark Deli Siljander**  
Former member of the House charged with conspiracy

WASHINGTON — A former congressman and delegate to the United Nations was indicted yesterday on charges of working for an alleged terrorist fundraising ring that sent more than \$130,000 to an al-Qaida supporter who has threatened U.S. and international troops in Afghanistan.

Mark Deli Siljander, a Michigan Republican when he was in the House, was charged with money laundering, con-

spiracy and obstructing justice for allegedly lying about being hired to lobby senators on behalf of an Islamic charity that authorities said was secretly sending funds to terrorists.

The 42-count indictment, unsealed in U.S. District Court in Kansas City, Mo., accuses

the Islamic American Relief Agency of paying Siljander \$50,000 for the lobbying — money that turned out to be stolen from the U.S. Agency for International Development.

The charges paint "a troubling picture of an American charity organization that engaged in transactions for the benefit of terrorists and conspired with a former United States congressman to convert stolen federal funds into payments for his advocacy," Assistant Attorney General Kenneth Wainstein said.

Siljander, who served in the House from 1981-1987, was appointed by President Reagan to serve as a U.S. delegate to the United Nations for one year in 1987.

Calls to Siljander's business in a Washington suburb went unanswered yesterday. His attorney in Kansas City, James R. Hobbs, said Siljander would plead not guilty to the charges against him.

"Mark Siljander vehemently denies the allegations in the indictment," Hobbs said in a statement. He described

Siljander as "internationally recognized for his good faith attempts to bridge the gap between Christian and Muslim communities worldwide" and plugged the ex-congressman's upcoming book on that topic.

The charges are part of a long-running case against the charity, which had been based in Columbia, Mo., before it was designated in 2004 by the Treasury Department as a suspected fundraiser for terrorists. The

See **DELEGATE** | Page 2

# Economist: Govt. health subsidy is not 'some outer space idea'

By Dave Herrera  
Senior Editor

The word "efficiency" probably brings a shudder to most students who've gone through an introductory microeconomics course.

The basic concept is pretty simple — the more a person gets out for what they put in, the more efficient something is.

For economists, efficiency is a prize, and yesterday a group of them took the idea into a political hot topic: Health care.

Around 15 people listened to Joseph Eisenhauer argue that government-provided health insurance might not be completely inefficient for the 46 million Americans the U.S. Census

"It's likely that there's little or no inefficiency and possibly an efficiency gain."

Joseph Eisenhauer | Economist

Bureau says are uninsured.

"This is not like some outer space idea," said Eisenhauer, the economics chair at Wright State University.

Eisenhauer's argument, "Efficiency analysis of health insurance subsidy," hinged on two ideas that have stoked debates among economists for years.

In 1968, Mark Pauly wrote

that people who have insurance tend to buy health care inefficiently.

The insured patients pay a co-pay, but that isn't enough to pay for everything that goes into providing care.

The person spends less than the care is worth. So it's inefficient, Pauly said. Providing insurance on a mass scale to those who didn't have it would make the problem worse.

Then in 1983, David de Meza challenged Pauly.

De Meza focused on people who didn't have insurance, but who got money to pay for care when they became sick.

See **HEALTH** | Page 2

# Nevada caucus could point to direction of Dem contest



JAE C. HONG | AP PHOTO

**HANDS TOGETHER:** Democratic presidential hopefuls Barack Obama, Hillary Rodham Clinton and John Edwards applaud the audience before a presidential debate in Las Vegas.

By Kathleen Hennessey  
The Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — A last-minute federal court battle over caucus rules demonstrates just how important a tight three-way Democratic presidential contest in Nevada has become in the battle for momentum headed into Super Tuesday's votes.

Hillary Rodham Clinton, Barack Obama and John Edwards are in a statistical dead heat in polling here before Saturday's caucuses. And Nevada's sizable blocs of Hispanic, union and urban voters could provide an indicator of where the race is headed on Feb. 5, when hundreds of delegates will be awarded in states with significant minority populations.

By contrast, Republican candidates have stayed away from the diverse electorate and unfamiliar electoral landscape as Nevada voters weigh in earlier than ever before.

No major GOP candidate has set foot in the state for two months, and some Republicans are bracing for a possible surprise first-place showing by long-shot Texas Rep. Ron Paul, the only Republican to broadcast TV ads in Nevada.

At issue in a federal court hearing Thursday is wheth-

er Democratic caucuses will be held in nine casinos along the Las Vegas Strip. The special locations were designed to make it easier for housekeepers, waitresses and bellhops in the state's biggest industry to caucus at midday near their jobs rather than returning home to neighborhood precincts.

The rules were unanimously approved by the state Democratic party last March and ratified by the Democratic National Committee in August.

But last Friday, six Democrats and a teachers union, which has ties to the Clinton campaign, sued to shut the sites on grounds they allocate too many delegates to one group. Of roughly 10,000 delegates to Nevada's presidential nominating convention, more than 700 could be selected at casino caucuses, depending upon turnout, which could make them more valuable than some sparsely populated Nevada counties, the lawsuit said. Four plaintiffs are on the committee that approved the sites.

The DNC petitioned to join the suit on behalf of the state party Tuesday.

The Clinton campaign has denied any involvement in the lawsuit, but Obama noted

See **CAUCUS** | Page 2

# Pakistani battles heat up as elections draw near

By Slobodan Lekic  
The Associated Press

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — Pakistan's government urged opposition leaders Tuesday to refrain from holding rallies ahead of next month's elections, citing an escalating terrorist threat.

The party of opposition leader Nawaz Sharif quickly rejected the recommendation, accusing officials of trying to block its campaign against President Pervez Musharraf.

The political squabble comes in the aftermath of the Dec. 27 assassination of Benazir Bhutto, whose Pakistan Peoples Party is expected by many to emerge as the largest in parliament after the Feb. 18 elections.

Musharraf came under heavy criticism for alleged security lapses that allowed suspected Islamic militants to launch a gun and suicide bomb attack on former prime minister Bhutto as she left



SHAKIL ADIL | AP PHOTO

**ON GUARD:** Pakistani police officers stand guard at a busy intersection in Karachi, Pakistan after a bombing Monday, which killed nine people.

a campaign rally. It was one in a wave of more than 20 suicide bombings to hit Pakistan in the past three months.

In apparent response to the accusations, the Interior Ministry on Tuesday issued guidelines to

political leaders "for their safety and security." These included recommendations to heed the advice of local police commanders on

See **PAKISTAN** | Page 2



## BLOTTER TUESDAY

7:23 A.M.

Joseph K. Konrad II, 39, of Bowling Green, was arrested for domestic violence for striking a juvenile after a verbal altercation.

9:17 P.M.

Charity Wanjiku Kaguora, 25, and Peter Wakarungu Maingi, 34, both of Bowling Green, were cited for assault for striking one another in the face.

## WEDNESDAY

6:45 A.M.

A Wood County Court Security Officer's weapon discharged and hit him in the hand. Police said he was taken to Wood County Hospital and the Wood County Sheriff's Office is investigating further.

## CORRECTION POLICY

We want to correct all factual errors. If you think an error has been made, call The BG News at 419-372-6966.

The name of the program coordinator of the Wood County Family and Child Abuse Prevention Center was misspelled Monday in an article on page 1. Her name is Joanne Carson.

## SIGNALS

From Page 1

**"Positive control is provided rather than leaving the driver to decide."**

FHWA Report

Green has changed the signals back to regular operation at night.

From midnight to 6 a.m., however, when there's not a lot of traffic, instead of making vehicles wait for the light to change, the system has changed to a "free mode."

Beneath the traffic lights, a sensor (also called loop detector) alerts the signal a car is there, Tretter said.

"The free mode will stay green on the major approach," said Brian O'Connell, the city engineer. "As a vehicle came up on the minor approach the signal would be tripped and the light would change."

There was not one specific reason why Bowling Green switched from flash mode, O'Connell said. There was a review of the number of accidents in communities with and without the flash mode, and the latter proved to have less. Statistically, this is the safer operation for traffic signals.

The FHWA report also stated that some studies have shown that without the flash mode a "positive control is provided rather than leaving the driver to decide when it is safe to proceed into the intersection."

But in Bowling Green, a year or two operating without flash mode would have to pass before enough data is gathered to prove if it is the safer method, O'Connell said.

The process of changing Bowling Green's lights just started a few weeks ago. Changing a few at a time, a week later nearly all the lights were in free mode.

Those five or six intersections that still aren't in the correct mode are only waiting for loop detectors to be installed.

While the goal is to get all the signals onto free mode, O'Connell said an installation schedule currently isn't in place yet for those signals still operating on flash mode.



JAE C. HONG | AP PHOTO

**FACE-OFF:** Democratic presidential hopefuls Barack Obama, Hillary Rodham Clinton and John Edwards participate in a Democratic presidential debate in Las Vegas Tuesday.

## CAUCUS

From Page 1

it was filed two days after he was endorsed by the powerful Culinary Workers Union Local 226, which has organized many workers along the Strip. The union is the state's largest with 60,000 members, more than 40 percent Hispanic.

The Illinois senator drew cheers at a Culinary Union event Sunday when he said the rules were fine until the union decided, "I'm going to support the guy who's standing with the working people instead of the big shots."

By Monday, Bill Clinton was defending the lawsuit. "I think the rules ought to be the same for everybody," the former president told high school students near Las Vegas.

The Culinary Union circulated a less subtle message on fliers to members: "Backers of Hillary Clinton are suing in court to take away our right to vote in the caucus." It's airing the same message in Spanish-language radio ads.

The legal dustup is not the only sign that stakes have risen here as a new survey this week by the Reno Gazette-Journal showed the race is a toss-up among the three main rivals.

Democratic campaign offices are packed with field workers from Iowa and New Hampshire. An Obama phone bank has been expanded into a parking lot trailer. New Clinton staffers are wearing name tags. The Edwards campaign tripled its staff.

First to arrive after New Hampshire, Clinton went straight to a heavily Culinary Union neighborhood and found several members willing to break with the union to support her.

The fight over labor has dominated the campaign partly because its proven organizing ability is one of the few tested elements in the contest.

Party officials are hoping 40,000 people turn out, 10 percent of the state's registered Democrats. Four years ago, a record 9,000 turned out.

Clinton has the support of the Democratic establishment thanks to her state chairman, Clark County Commission Chairman Rory Reid, Sen. Harry Reid's son.

The New York senator lined up the boldface names in each demographic group, particularly among Hispanics, who are nearly 25 percent of the population.

She went after regular party activists, women and hordes of retirees with time to work the phones.

Edwards locked down some early union support, but the former North Carolina senator wrestled hard and lost when he needed it most. Along with the Culinary Union, the

**"I'm going to support the guy who's standing with the working people."**

Barack Obama | Candidate

Nevada chapter of the Service Employees International Union aligned with Obama. The Edwards campaign has focused on a badly needed win in South Carolina and did not rush to match the stepped-up Obama and Clinton efforts.

Before his labor endorsements, Obama's campaign was fueled by new voters, blacks and scores of out-of-state canvassers from California and Arizona. His workers reached out to the massive work force on the Las Vegas Strip in casino employee breakrooms and cafeterias.

Obama has tripled his television advertising and added a new commercial about his union endorsements.

Clinton's ads have highlighted her promise to close the proposed nuclear waste dump at Yucca Mountain, but all three candidates vied at a debate Tuesday to express the deepest opposition to the dump.

Among Republicans, Paul had TV and radio advertising almost all to himself. While he hasn't placed higher than fourth in previous contests, his views are a natural fit among some in libertarian-leaning Nevada.

Former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney has made a play for support among fellow Mormons, a politically active community in Nevada.

He has some radio ads, the only other Republican broadcasting ads here.

A poll for the Gazette-Journal showed John McCain at 22 percent, Rudy Giuliani at 18 percent, Mike Huckabee with 16 percent and Romney at 15 percent.

While Las Vegas and Reno receive the most attention, Obama and Clinton plan trips to Elko, a small ranching and mining town in northeast Nevada — part of their effort to scoop up voters left without a candidate when New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson quit the race.

Richardson's departure also provided an opening among Hispanic voters in Las Vegas and fueled concentration on the Culinary Union.

The heavily Hispanic union has been working members for two months, prompting signs this 24-hour town may tire of political attention.

One graveyard shift worker last week posted this message to union canvassers outside a home: "Yes! We are caucusing with the Culinary ... Please do not knock [sleeping]."

It takes 3,000 cows to supply the NFL with enough leather for a year's supply of footballs.



## HEALTH

From Page 1

He concluded they might pay more for their first few treatments than that care was worth — which would be efficient. But eventually they pay less.

"The first few units [of care] may be so valuable to an ailing person that they'd be willing to pay so much money for it," Eisenhower said. "So it's likely that there is little or no inefficiency and possibly an efficiency gain."

Eisenhower's paper looked at what would happen when the entire amount paid for care by an insured person

was compared to the entire amount it cost.

Even though some individual payments would be efficient and some would not, the total amount paid would be more than the total cost.

This kind of program would add around 3 percent to Americans' income tax, Eisenhower said.

"That's comparable to the tax we already pay for Medicare, which covers about the same number of people," he said.

The small crowd helped keep the conversation lively.

Eisenhower was peppered with questions and comments during his 70-minute presentation.

They challenged his use of

other economists' work and the effects of currently insured Americans who would drop into the national plan.

Eisenhower stressed his program was not, as one commenter wondered, "socialized medicine."

"It's important to draw a distinction between national health insurance and socialized medicine," he said. "You can have a system where you have all the doctors in private practice ... and still have national health insurance."

But he also said several more analyses should be made before the idea was complete, such as examining how efficient national plans would be for health care suppliers.

## DELEGATE

From Page 1

indictment alleges that IARA also employed a fundraising aide to Osama bin Laden, the al-Qaida leader blamed for the Sept. 11 attacks.

IARA has long denied allegations that it has financed terrorists. The group's attorney, Shereef Akeel of Troy, Mich., rejected the charges outlined in yesterday's indictment.

"For four years I have not seen a single piece of a document that shows anyone did anything wrong," Akeel said.

The government accuses IARA of sending approximately \$130,000 to help Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, whom the United States has designated a global terrorist. The money, sent to bank accounts in Peshawar, Pakistan, in 2003 and 2004, was masked as donations to an orphanage located in buildings that Hekmatyar owned.

Authorities described Hekmatyar as an Afghan mujahideen leader who participated in and supported terrorist acts by al-Qaida and the Taliban. The Justice Department said Hekmatyar "has vowed to engage in a holy war against the United States and international troops in Afghanistan."

## PAKISTAN

From Page 1

security matters and to keep authorities informed of their movements.

"It is of paramount importance that the political leadership is sensitized about the looming threat and asked to adopt a security conscious approach," Interior Ministry spokesman Javed Iqbal Cheema said. "Big rallies should be avoided as much as possible."

Large political rallies have traditionally been the main method to drum up support during election campaigns.

Opposition groups say Musharraf's own party is unable to exploit this because of its declining popularity after it supported his purging of the judiciary and failed to contain skyrocketing food prices.

Sharif's Pakistan Muslim League party denounced the government's guidelines. Party spokesman Ahsan Iqbal accused authorities of "playing with terrorist threat to stop opposition parties from reaching out to the people."

"This is a failure of Pervez Musharraf. If he resigns, the law and order situation will become normal," Iqbal said.

"This is intended only to stop the opposition from campaigning."

The United States hopes the elections will stabilize Pakistan, a key ally in the war against the Taliban and al-Qaida in neighboring Afghanistan.

But militant violence in

**"I have not seen a ... document that shows anyone did anything wrong."**

Shereef Akeel | Attorney

Siljander was elected to Congress initially with the support of fundamentalist Christian groups, and said at the time he won because "God wanted me in." In 1983, he claimed that "Arab terrorists" planned to kill him during a pro-Jewish rally; the FBI and Secret Service said they knew of no such plot. Siljander attended the rally wearing a bulletproof vest.

After leaving the government, he founded the Washington-area consulting group Global Strategies Inc. and, according to the indictment, was hired by IARA in March 2004 to lobby the Senate Finance Committee to remove the charity from the panel's list of suspected terror fundraisers.

It's not clear whether Siljander ever engaged in the lobbying push, said John Wood, U.S. attorney in Kansas City. Nevertheless, IARA paid Siljander with money that was part of U.S. government fund-

ing awarded to the charity years earlier for relief work it promised to perform in Africa, the indictment says.

In interviews with the FBI in December 2005 and April 2007, Siljander denied doing any lobbying for IARA. The money, he told investigators, was merely a donation from IARA to help him write a book about Islam and Christianity, the indictment says.

In 2004, the FBI raided the IARA's USA headquarters and the homes of people affiliated with the group nationwide. Since then, the 20-year-old charity has been unable to raise money and its assets have been frozen.

The charity has argued that it is a separate organization from the Islamic African Relief Agency, a Sudanese group suspected of financing al-Qaida. A federal appeals court in Washington ruled in February that the two groups were linked.

In all, Siljander, IARA and five of its officers were charged with various counts of theft, money laundering, aiding terrorists and conspiracy.

"By bringing this case in the middle of America, we seek to make it harder for terrorists to do business halfway around the globe," Wood said.



PERVEZ MASIH | AP PHOTO

**STAND GUARD:** Pakistan's paramilitary troops patrol in the city to ensure security in Hyderabad, Pakistan. Cities went on high alert after the country's second deadly bombing.

**"This is intended only to stop the opposition from campaigning."**

Ahsan Iqbal | Party Spokesman

Pakistan's border regions — where support for the Taliban remains strong — has spread to the entire nation, seriously undermining public support for the president.

Al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden and his top deputy are believed to be hiding out somewhere in the lawless tribal region straddling the Pakistan-Afghan border.

Also Tuesday, a suicide bomber blew himself up when troops opened fire as he drove a car toward a checkpoint in Mohmand, a tribal region close to the Afghan border where a

clash the previous day left 30 dead, an army statement said. A second militant in the car was killed by gunfire.

On Monday night, a bomb explosion near a textile factory in the country's largest city, Karachi, killed 10 people and wounded 52.

In a related development, three militants were found guilty Tuesday of plotting to kill Musharraf by setting off a car bomb near his convoy in Karachi in 2002.

Judges said the car did not explode because the remote control device used to detonate it malfunctioned, according to state prosecutor Naimat Randhawa.

The three were from the outlawed Harkatul Mujahideen Al-Almi militant group, which police have blamed for a 2002 bombing at the U.S. consulate in Karachi that killed 14 people.

Musharraf has survived at least three attempts on his life.

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# UAO event makes students LOL

Comedian Kevin Bozeman performs in the Union

By Steve Kunkler  
Reporter

Comic relief was the order of the night for the audience of comedian Kevin Bozeman's performance in the Union Ballroom yesterday.

Giving his thoughts on drug use, hurricanes and relationships, Bozeman's performance also gave the audience his opinions on life.

Riffing on the current controversies surrounding athletics and drug use, Bozeman said anyone who is able to take drugs and succeed in sports should be rewarded, not punished.

"Since when is smoking weed a sports enhancer, unless you're in a Doritos-eating contest?" Bozeman asked.

Bozeman also joked about the changes that should be made in hurricane warnings.

He suggested that rather than

**"UAO is doing well in bringing more culturally diverse entertainment ..."**

Sarah Davis | Senior

giving hurricanes people names, severe weather should be called by what it really is.

"[Hurricanes] should be called 'pack your sh-- up and get out,'" Bozeman said.

The comedian has also considered different ways to help the country balance its budget by selling the upper peninsulas of states like Maine and Michigan.

Bozeman's idols include Dave Chappelle, Eddie Murphy and Richard Pryor.

Despite being on the road for more than 200 days out of the year, Bozeman said he believes

comedy was meant for him. He said without having the ability to do stand-up, he would probably still be doing odd jobs.

Bozeman also included a recap of his show when a few people arrived in the middle of the performance, bringing them up to speed on the topics of midgets, hurricanes and race relations.

Overall, Bozeman succeeded in winning the audience over.

Sophomore Preston Tartt said he enjoyed the reprimand Bozeman gave when there was some hesitation in the audience about laughing at his jokes.

Other students, like senior Sarah Davis, appreciated the efforts of UAO to bring a broader range of guests to the University.

"I would say that UAO is doing well in bringing more culturally diverse entertainment to campus," Davis said.



CENTER STAGE: UAO holds their first event of the semester with comedian Kevin Bozeman.

CHRISTINA MCGINNIS | THE BG NEWS

## GET A LIFE

Some events taken from events.bgnews

8 a.m. - 9 a.m.

**Geojourney**

130 and 131 Union

8 a.m. - 11 p.m.

**Muslim Student Association**

**Prayer Room**

204 Olscamp

9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

**Ohio School Counselor's**

**Association: Suicide Prevention**

201 Union

9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**Rebecca Kaler- Paintings**

**The Little Gallery**

4:30 p.m.

**Geology Colloquium**

095 Overman

7 - 10 p.m.

**CRU Weekly Meeting**

101 Olscamp

8 - 9 p.m.

**UAO Pub Series**

**Black Swamp Pub**

# Meningitis death sparks lawsuit at University of Pennsylvania

By Will Bunch

Philadelphia Daily News

PHILADELPHIA — The death of a 19-year-old University of Pennsylvania sophomore from bacterial meningitis in early September has prompted a lawsuit and a war of words between the family's lawyer and the university hospital where she died.

The suit filed Friday by the family of Anne Ryan, a promising student from near Erie, Pa., accuses the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania of ignoring clear signs of the deadly

bacterial illness when it failed to admit her after an emergency-room visit on Sept. 6 of last year. It seeks unspecified damages.

The family's attorney, widely known trial lawyer Tom Kline, leveled a new allegation Friday — that doctors at HUP performed an unnecessary procedure that contributed to her death on Sept. 9, after she returned to the ER the night before.

"This was a young lady who had a life of promise ahead of her, and she ended up tragically dying after two visits to the Penn emergency room," Kline

said Friday.

University as well as hospital officials said Friday that they were limited in discussing all of the specifics of Ryan's death, but insisted that the care she received during her emergency-room trips was appropriate.

Dr. P.J. Brennan, chief medical officer for the Penn Health System and a specialist in treating infectious diseases, did say without details that the allegations by attorney Kline "are shamefully inaccurate."

The one thing that both sides seemed to agree on Friday was that the sudden death of the vivacious

Ivy Leaguer with a passion for modeling, music and exotic languages, was an unthinkable tragedy for her parents, her brother — a Penn grad living in Philadelphia — and her three sisters from Northwestern Pennsylvania.

Kline said that when Ryan went to the emergency room at the Penn hospital on the second day of classes in September, she reported classic meningitis symptoms including neck pain and a fever of 103 degrees. What's more, he said, blood tests showed two signs of a bacterial infection.

However, Ryan was sent home

and told she had a less serious viral infection after a test of fluid from a spinal tap; Kline insisted that a negative result on this test — a Gram stain — does not conclusively prove that meningitis is not present.

Also, Kline alleged that a second spinal tap performed when a more severely ill Ryan returned to the ER two days later was unnecessary and, because of brain swelling from the bacteria, caused her brain to shift and led to a hernia that along with the advanced meningitis led to her death.

The university issued a

statement after the suit was filed defending its actions and contradicting some of Kline's allegations.

"Although Ms. Ryan's symptoms were not classic for meningitis, she underwent a thorough evaluation and testing which included receiving the recognized test for detecting meningitis — a lumbar puncture — and the results were negative and remained negative," the Penn statement said. "She unquestionably did not have meningitis when she was tested in the Emergency Department."

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## PEOPLE ON THE STREET

The City of Bowling Green turns 175 this year. What would you give it for its birthday?



"A huge, giant dome to block out the damn wind."  
**PETE CHAPARRO**, Junior, Biology



"A mohawk."  
**KAIT DUFFY**, Freshman, Journalism



"A beer."  
**CHRIS TUITAMA**, Freshman, Sports Management



"More parking."  
**AMANDA PITCOCK**, Freshman, Political Science

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Have your own take on today's People On The Street? Or a suggestion for a question? Give us your feedback at [bgnews.com](http://bgnews.com).

## Why didn't I know what had happened?



**MARISHA PIETROWSKI**, COLUMNIST

I first noticed something was awry when I came back from winter break. I was looking forward to actual hot water pressure without a long wait (something that is impossible at my house), and I returned to find that the water was nothing more than lukewarm, or downright frigid, in the showers and sinks.

As a result, I wasn't particularly surprised to find out about Monday night's water main break, because I knew something was amiss with the water for a while.

What was frustrating was the fact that my floormates and I had little knowledge beyond the fact that we did not have water. We did not receive any e-mail communication from the school with more information about how long we were to be without water, or information on where we could go to use the restroom and shower. A PA announcement was made in my dorm, and we were told that we would be informed when water was restored (which we weren't).

Groups of students from Harshman ended up walking in the snowy and cold conditions to nearby businesses on Wooster Street in order to use the bathrooms that evening (such as McDonald's) because we did not know what buildings on campus had water. Luckily water pressure was semi-functional by 1 a.m.; I was not in the mood to walk all the way down to Tim Hortons to use the restroom before I went to bed.

I was told incorrect information from many people who were just as confused as I was, and I felt that it would have been nice to hear from the school itself. Rather than listening to hearsay about what buildings had water and how long until they closed, I would have liked concrete information. Also, as a subscriber to the BG Alert text message system, I thought that this situation would constitute an appropriate use of the technology.

Media Relations Director Teri Sharp told me that the information was on the University Web site's home page (I checked multiple times throughout the evening, but I may have missed it), and that the PA announcement I heard in my dorm was used by the Marketing and Communications department to let students know of the situation.

"Every situation is a little bit different and we try to assess information, and we do discuss what the best way to get information about the students would be," Sharp said.

In regards to the BG Alert system, Sharp explained that, "The question was raised, 'should we text message students?' but since more students live off than on-campus and weren't affected, the decision was made not to send out messages."

"As a subscriber to the BG Alert text message system, I thought that this situation would constitute an appropriate use of the technology."

Instead, she noted, the 37-ALERT and 372-SNOW numbers were updated, so students could call these automated numbers or campus police to find out about the current conditions on campus and should do so in future situations.

I did not think to call for information about the circumstances (I was unaware of the automated numbers as well), and assumed that a message would be in my inbox about updates. In my eyes, it would have been easier to send a mass e-mail to all students, where non-affected students could simply delete the message, and the campus police number would not be inundated with calls.

As my neighbor, Freshman Amanda Hawkey, said, "I heard through multiple e-mails about a fire truck going into a building [that wasn't my own]; I'd like to know about something that affects myself and more students."

So I knew that the school had made a decision not to send out mass communications, but why wasn't I made aware that the water had been restored in a more timely fashion?

Harshman Chapman-Dunbar Hall Director Amanda Stump told me, "We were made aware around 11 p.m., which was too late to make an announcement over the PA." This is understandable, however, signs alerting students of the situation remained on bathroom doors long past the return of water, and the inactivity signaled to me that the restroom wasn't functioning.

Information should have been more streamlined and detailed, although I am not trying to place blame on any person or department in particular. To quote the film "Cool Hand Luke," "What we've got here is a failure to communicate!" There were many issues with the way information was transmitted.

Sharp told me that student feedback is important in the way that they conduct business, and I am glad to see that they take the concerns of students seriously. That way, when a similar situation happens, the relay of information can be more effective.

Send responses to Marisha to [thenews@bgnews.com](mailto:thenews@bgnews.com).

### TOMORROW IN FORUM

Columns from Jess Hylton and Ally Blankertz.

Schedule subject to change.

## Time to follow through on those freedoms



**KAMPIRE BAHANA**, COLUMNIST

Even though having one of Satan's little helpers as president of the free world has had an immeasurable effect on my psyche (I'm scarred, I tell you), I am still not allowed to vote in the 2008 election. Something about not being American — I don't know what that's all about. It's okay by me though, because I get to sit back and watch America hash out its race and gender issues in public.

The season has barely begun, but it's already proving to be a fun one. Exhibit A from an anonymous poster at Republican blog Free Republic:

"By sending forth Hussein Osama out of Iowa, Democrats have unwittingly weakened their general election prospects."

"For America's 'good' white people, those embarrassed by America's violent, racist past, Obama gives them a chance to say, 'I'm not racist, I voted for Obama.'"

"Hussein's exotic mixture of radical liberalism, Kwanzaa Socialism, antipathy towards the unborn, and weakness against his jihadi brethren will all come back to destroy him against almost any Republican opponent."

Exhibit B from The New Republic editor Leon Wieseltier:

"She's like some hellish housewife who has seen something that she really, really wants and won't stop nagging you about it until finally you say, 'fine, take it, be the damn president, just leave me alone.'"

This is only a taste of the sexist and blatantly racist comments that have been flung like monkey feces at the Obama and Clinton campaigns.

Firstly, its 2008. Two thousand and eight. It took this long, in a nation that is 50 percent female and 13 percent black, to get anyone who's not an old rich white man this close to the presidency. If someone had told emancipated slaves in 1865 that it would be another 150 or so years before a black man was in danger of running the country, the "Back to Africa" movement would have been a lot more popular.

It is not a surprise, then, that many see this historic election as an opportunity for America to finally live up to all those promises about liberty and freedom that it is famous for making. When Obama won the caucus in Iowa, whose black population is only 2 percent, commentators spoke of the possibility that race would not be the issue in this election.

And for America's "good" white people, those embarrassed by America's violent, racist past, Obama gives them a chance to say, "I'm not racist, I voted for Obama." I'll admit it sounds a lot more powerful than, "I'm not racist I have friends who are black" or "I'm not racist, I watch Oprah."

It's no wonder that Oprah has endorsed Obama's campaign — they both assuage the collective conscience of America. Angela Davis was quoted in The Nation magazine as saying, "It's the notion that we have moved beyond racism by not taking race into account. That's what makes him conceivable as a presidential candidate. He's become the model of diversity in this period... a model of diversity as the difference that makes no difference. The change that brings no change."

I think that Obama will bring change, if he does not get assassinated. For a lot of people, race is not an "invisible" issue. Denying the potency of race and gender in this historic election denies the reality of the thousands of rabid racists and misogynists in this country who hang nooses as "jokes" and in a school shooting, single out the girls for slaughter.

It denies the reality of the women and people of color who must live in fear of them.

So come out into the light all you racists and rapists. You've been hiding too long in your "gentleman's clubs" and behind your swastikas. Some people think you don't even exist. So come out. It's time America aired out its dirtiest knickers.

Send your responses to Kampire to [thenews@bgnews.com](mailto:thenews@bgnews.com).

### SPEAK YOUR MIND

Got something you want to say about an opinion column or news story? Here's how to get in touch with us for letters to the editor:

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- Drop a note into our new comment box at the Union Information Center.
- Call us at 419-372-6966.
- Come to our newsroom in 210 West Hall.

Be sure to read the submission guidelines at the bottom of this page.

## Awkward silence, begone: 5 tips for small talk



**GRANT PARDEE**, COLUMNIST

Boy, it's a good thing we have such kooky weather in Bowling Green or I feel like sometimes we'd have nothing to talk about.

I guess I could ask you if you had a good weekend and you could ask me about mine. Maybe we could talk about what a tool that professor we had was. Or the game last night! What a doozy.

Small talk is something we don't talk enough about. It happens everyday to countless people and is as constant and unavoidable as death. It's an important issue, America.

Picture this scene and ask yourself how many times you've found yourself in this situation — even today. You're walking to class and spot a familiar face. Not a dinner buddy or anything, just someone you've met once or twice. Maybe you were in the same research group for a class and became Facebook friends. But that's it. No unrequited love or feelings of resentment; just indifference. The familiar face recognizes you too and you stop

to greet each other.

Now what?

You have to engage in small talk — ask them how they are, what's new and "how about this weather?" You might as well be a meteorologist for how many times you talk about the weather per day.

That is not to say that small talk is a bad concept. It's a necessary component of being an upright, social citizen. You want to acknowledge that you recognize that person. You might not have any information to pass on and neither do they, but no one wants to be rude, either.

What are you going to do, have meaningful conversations with everyone you meet? That'd be even worse.

It's just that we need new topics to talk shop about.

Naturally, there are certain issues that are basically off-limits. It would be a bad idea to ask your friend how their day is and then follow it up with, "Who do you like better: God

or Mitt Romney?"

Asking them if they've done anything racist lately is also not a great topic for polite conversation.

So I thought I could offer some ideas for acceptable fall-back conversation topics. This way, when neither party has anything in particular to say, we could offer our opinions on the following:

1. Robot technology. When will robots become self-aware? Are we thinking 10 more years or is it going to be sooner? Do you have a robot shelter prepared at home?

2. Catch-phrases. What's your favorite catch phrase? Steve Urkel's, "You guys got any cheese?" is always a top choice, but our generation should be able to rattle off at least a half dozen without breaking a sweat. Before you know it, you need to get going and the small talk is over.

3. Yo' momma. I guess I just feel like there aren't enough

times during the day when I get to talk about you and yo' momma and I think it should be acceptable for polite conversation.

4. A "damn!" competition. This would be where after you exchange greetings, you and your friend compete to say "damn!" in a more badass intonation. I think most people would be best served to stretch out the vowel sound in the word, but maybe there's creative ways to keep a succinct "damn!" equally as powerful.

5. A "dam!" competition. This would be where after you exchange greetings, you and your friend try to build a make-shift dam over wherever you're standing. I didn't think this one through very much, I should admit.

So, those are just a few suggestions to improve the overall quality of our small talk conversations. We'll still essentially be saying nothing, but at least as we exchange pleasantries we could squeeze a bit more enjoyment from the process.

I think we ought to give it a shot.

What do you say?

Send your responses to Grant to [thenews@bgnews.com](mailto:thenews@bgnews.com).

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## THE BG NEWS

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### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

are generally to be fewer than 300 words. These are usually in response to a current issue on the University's campus or the Bowling Green area.

**GUEST COLUMNS** are generally longer pieces between 400 and 700 words. These are usually also in response to a current issue on the University's campus or the Bowling Green area. Two submissions per month maximum.

### POLICIES:

Letters to the Editor and Guest Columns are printed as space on the Opinion Page permits. Additional Letters to the Editor or Guest Columns may be published online. Name, year and phone number should be included for verification purposes. Personal attacks, unverified information or anonymous submissions will not be printed.

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as an attachment to [thenews@bgnews.com](mailto:thenews@bgnews.com) with the subject line marked "Letter to the Editor" or "Guest Column." All submissions are subject to review and editing for length and clarity before printing. The editor may change the headlines to submitted columns and letters at his or her discretion.

Opinion columns do not necessarily reflect the view of The BG News.



# Critical govt. e-mails potentially gone

## White House may have taped over backups pertaining to Plame leak case

By Pete Yost  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The White House has acknowledged recycling its backup computer tapes of e-mail before October 2003, raising the possibility that many electronic messages — including those pertaining to the CIA leak case — have been taped over and are gone forever.

The disclosure came minutes before midnight Tuesday under a court-ordered deadline that forced the White House to reveal information it has previously refused to provide.

Among the e-mails that could be lost are messages swapped by any White House officials involved in discussions about leaking the identity of CIA officer Valerie Plame.

Before October 2003, the White House recycled its backup tapes "consistent with industry best practices," according to a sworn statement by a White House aide.

**"There is no basis to say that the White House has destroyed any evidence or engaged in any misconduct."**

Tony Fratto | White House Spokesman

Backup tapes are the last line of defense for saving electronic records.

Separately, the statement reveals the extent to which the White House is apparently unable to answer how many e-mails are missing from White House servers.

The White House "does not know if any e-mails were not properly preserved in the archiving process," said the statement by Theresa Payton, chief information officer for the White House Office of Administration.

"We are continuing our efforts," said Payton, whose staff is responsible for the White House e-mail system.

If the e-mails were not saved, the White House might have

violated two laws requiring preservation of documents that fall into the categories of federal records or presidential records.

White House spokesman Tony Fratto said that "there is no basis to say that the White House has destroyed any evidence or engaged in any misconduct."

Fratto said that despite the recycling, some tapes should contain e-mails from before October 2003.

"Of course the disaster recovery backup tapes were, at one time, recycled," said Fratto. "However, since October 2003, the Office of Administration has retained and preserved its disaster recovery tapes. The disaster recovery system is set up to regularly back up every-

thing on the network for the Executive Office of the president at the time of each backup."

The recycling of backup tapes by the Bush White House represents a reversal in policy from the final year of the Clinton administration.

The Clinton White House halted recycling of backup tapes in March 2000, when it was discovered that some e-mail from the office of Vice President Al Gore was not preserved.

The seven-page document filed in U.S. District Court says the White House in October 2003 "began preserving and storing all backup tapes and continues to do so."

Payton said this means that e-mails sent or received in the 2003-2005 time period should be contained on existing backup tapes.

The period of 2003 and 2005 is the time frame at issue in lawsuits seeking information about possibly millions of missing e-mails at the Bush White House.

### THE BG NEWS SUDOKU

		1	2		8	7	3	
					6		2	1
5		2				4		6
						9		2
3								
8			7	2				
				8	1		6	
2	8							
	6	9	5	7		8	4	

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E	7	8	7	L	S	6	9	L
S	6	L	7	E	9	L	8	7
L	9	7	L	8	6	E	S	7
7	L	E	S	7	L	9	6	8
8	L	9	6	L	7	S	7	E
7	S	6	E	9	8	7	L	L
9	8	7	L	6	L	7	E	S
L	7	S	9	7	E	8	L	6
6	E	L	8	S	7	L	7	9

## Police investigate tiger mauling of Calif. men

By Marcus Wohlsen  
The Associated Press

SAN JOSE, Calif. — San Francisco police yesterday searched the cell phones and car of two brothers mauled by a zoo tiger, looking for evidence that they may have provoked the animal, which also killed a friend of the men.

"We're in the process of using the search warrant now," Sgt. Neville Gittens, a police spokesman, said yesterday, adding that police would not immediately make public the findings from the search because the investigation remains open.

As police looked through the phones and car belonging to Paul Dhaliwal, 19, and Kulbir Dhaliwal, 24, the city attorney's office and San Francisco Zoo

officials went to Santa Clara Superior Court to gain their own access.

Attorneys for the city and the zoo say they need to conduct their own inspection of the items to prepare a defense against expected lawsuits over the Dec. 25 tiger attack, which killed 17-year-old Carlos Sousa Jr. and severely injured the brothers before the big cat was killed.

Zoo officials have acknowledged that the wall separating the big cats from the public is only 12 feet tall — 4 feet lower than the recommended minimum.

In court documents, the city and the zoo contend that the car and phones may contain evidence that the young men from San Jose drank, used

**"They didn't do anything to get those tigers to jump out. There's nothing ... that's going to show these guys taunted this tiger."**

Shepard Kopp | Defense Attorney

drugs and taunted the tiger the night of the attacks.

"We know that something happened out there in the zoo that motivated this tiger," Deputy City Attorney Sean Connolly told reporters outside the courthouse.

Judge Socrates Manoukian said he would not announce any decisions until tomorrow about whether the city attorney's office could inspect the items.

The phones and the car have been in San Francisco police custody since the night of the

attacks pending the outcome of a criminal investigation, though the department has given little indication that they believe the young men had done anything wrong.

Police investigators have previously said the car contained an empty vodka bottle.

The search warrant also allows them to search the contents of the phones.

The city attorney's office has argued that the phones may include photos, text messages and call logs that could help them reconstruct events the

night of the attacks.

A lawyer for the brothers called the city's attempt to examine his clients' personal property "unlawful."

"They didn't commit any crimes, and they didn't do anything to get those tigers to jump out," said Shepard Kopp, who is representing the Dhaliwals along with prominent California defense lawyer Mark Geragos. "There's nothing on those phones that's going to show these guys taunted or provoked this tiger in any way."

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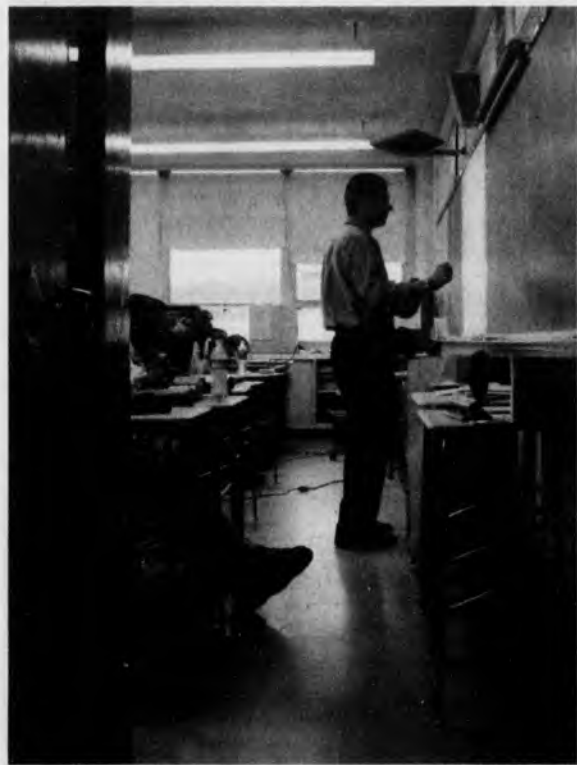
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#### Point of Pride...

The University's Jerome Library is home to three nationally prominent special collections: the Browne Popular Culture Collection, the Historical Collections of the Great Lakes and the Sound Recordings Archives.



ROB CARR | AP PHOTO

PAY ATTENTION: Algebra teacher James Todaro teaches at Baltimore Polytechnic Institute in Baltimore in December 2007.

## Substitutes create unnoticed 'vacuum' in schools

By Nancy Zuckerbrod  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A year is a long time in a child's education, the time it can take to learn cursive writing or beginning algebra. It's also how much time kids can spend with substitute teachers from kindergarten through high school — time that's all but lost for learning.

Despite tremendous pressure on schools to increase instructional time and meet performance goals, the vacuum created by teacher absenteeism has been all but ignored — even though new research suggests it can have an adverse effect in

the classroom.

The problem isn't just with teachers home for a day or two with the flu. Schools' use of substitutes to plug full-time vacancies — the teachers that kids are supposed to have all year — is up dramatically.

Duke University economist Charles Clotfelter, among a handful of researchers who have closely studied the issue, said the image of spitballs flying past a daily substitute often reflects reality.

"Many times substitutes don't have the plan in front of them," Clotfelter said. "They don't have all the behavioral expectations that the regular teachers have

established, so it's basically a holding pattern."

Clotfelter's examination of North Carolina schools is part of emerging research suggesting that teacher absences lead to lower student test scores, even when substitutes fill in.

And test scores have gained heightened importance, because the 2002 education law penalizes schools if too few students meet testing benchmarks. The goal is to get all kids reading and doing math at their grade levels by 2014.

Raegen Miller, a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Washington, is examining the impact of teacher absences

on fourth-grade test scores in a large, urban school district that he chooses not to identify. His findings show that 10 teacher absences within a year cause a significant loss in math achievement. When the regular teacher is gone for two weeks, it can set students back at least that amount of time.

"Teachers often have to re-teach material, restore order and rebuild relationships after absences," said Miller, who is conducting the research with Harvard University education professors.

The potential harm multiplies when subs are used in long-term roles in a classroom.

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Wednesday	January 23	BTSU	1st Floor Lobby	10:30 am - 3:00 pm
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**AGREEMENT:** President Bush and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak arrive for a joint statement in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, yesterday.

By Anne Gearan  
The Associated Press

SHARM EL-SHEIKH, Egypt — President Bush's fast-track plan for a Mideast peace agreement got a welcome endorsement yesterday from a nation long seen as a key Arab mediator. Bush responded by pulling his punches on the human rights backpedaling in Egypt that have cooled relations with this longtime ally.

The president closed an eight-day Mideast trip well-fed from several lingering meals with his Arab hosts and upbeat about

what even some of America's closest allies say is an unexpected and ambitious drive. An Israeli-Palestinian agreement has eluded U.S. presidents for decades, and Bush didn't put much effort into trying for the first seven years of his presidency.

Bush had a message for skeptical Arab states whose help he needs to make any accord stick and who doubt the president's intention to personally shepherd a deal. "I mean what I'm saying," Bush said.

In a brief appearance with Egyptian President Hosni

Mubarak, Bush dealt gently with the pace of political reform in Egypt, the issue that has most distanced his administration from this historical partner, the first Arab state to make peace with Israel and the recipient of the most U.S. aid except Israel. He started with praise that had less to do with Egypt's government than with its history and populace. He said he discussed the issue with Mubarak, who himself said nothing on the topic.

"Because of the predominate role you play, and because I strongly believe that Egypt can

play a role in the freedom and justice movement ... my hope is that the Egyptian government will build on these important steps, and give the people of this proud nation a greater voice in your future," Bush said.

He did not publicly mention jailed political opposition leader Ayman Nour, whose case U.S. officials have pledged to raise each time they meet the Egyptians.

As gasoline and heating oil prices soar at home, Bush urged the OPEC oil cartel to consider boosting production.

## Castro's health delays his return to public endeavors

By Will Weisert  
The Associated Press

HAVANA — Fidel Castro said Tuesday he is not yet healthy enough to address Cuba's people in person and can't campaign for Sunday's parliamentary elections.

"I am not physically able to speak directly to the citizens of the municipality where I was nominated for our elections," the ailing 81-year-old wrote in an essay published by state news media.

Hours later, government television broadcast images of a frail but upbeat Castro meeting Brazil's visiting President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva on Tuesday.

The first video of Castro in three months showed him sitting and listening intently with a finger pressed to his forehead, then later standing and speaking,

**"I think Fidel is ready to take over his historic political role in this globalized world, in humanity."**

Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva  
Brazilian President

waving a finger for emphasis.

"I have felt very good, very good," Castro says after exchanging a warm hug with Silva — the only audible comment on the 60 seconds of footage.

Silva, a leftist admirer of the Cuban revolution, said Castro's health "was a nice surprise."

Speaking to reporters at the airport just before leading the island, Silva said Castro appeared healthy enough to

return to politics.

"I think Fidel is ready to take over his historic political role in this globalized world, in humanity," Silva said. He did not suggest what that role might be.

Castro has not been seen in public since July 2006, when emergency intestinal surgery forced him to cede power to a provisional government headed by his brother Raul, five years his junior. Despite stepping aside, the elder Castro has retained his position as head of the Council of State, Cuba's supreme governing body.

In Tuesday's essay, he expressed frustration with the fact that he can no longer give the kind of hours-long speeches for which he was noted.

"I do what I can: I write. For me, this is a new experience: writing is not the same as speaking," he wrote.



ADIL AL-KHAZALI | THE BG NEWS

**INJURIES:** A man injured in a suicide attack lies inside a hospital in Baghdad, Iraq, yesterday. A woman wearing a vest lined with explosives blew herself up near a popular market and Shiite mosque in turbulent Diyala province north of the capital, killing eight civilians, the latest in a growing number of female suicide attacks.

## Female bomber attacks on rise

By Christopher Chester  
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — A woman wearing a vest lined with explosives blew herself up near Shiite worshippers in turbulent Diyala province north of the capital yesterday, killing nine of them — the latest in a growing number of female suicide attacks.

Six people were wounded in the bombing in Khan Bani Saad, a town nine miles south of Baqouba, Diyala's provincial capital, police said.

Although female suicide bombings have been fairly rare in Iraq, extremists have

been using women more frequently in recent months. U.S. officials say this indicates the militants are running short of male volunteers.

However, it also could be that al-Qaida in Iraq believes women are less likely than men to be searched and that explosives are easier to conceal under women's clothing.

Yesterday's bombing was the fourth female suicide attack in Iraq since November.

All have taken place in Diyala, which has been a major focus of a nationwide campaign the U.S. military launched last week against

al-Qaida in Iraq and other Sunni extremists.

Northwest of Diyala, small arms fire killed three U.S. soldiers conducting operations yesterday in Salahuddin province, the military said.

Two other soldiers were wounded and evacuated to a coalition hospital.

According to residents and police, the woman suicide bomber detonated her explosives when she saw Shiite men in black about 50 yards from a mosque making preparations for a ceremony marking Ashoura, the holiest day in the Shiite calendar.

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School year - \$590.00 per month.  
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## SIDELINES



## TENNIS

## Sharapova ousts Davenport at the Australian Open

Even Lindsay Davenport's 7-year-old son, Jagger, could not stop Maria Sharapova from winning at the Australian Open down in Melbourne

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## ONLINE

## The BG News Sports Blog

Stay up to date on your favorite Falcon sports with The BG News Sports Blog. The blog is also good for live game updates of men's and women's basketball and hockey

<http://www.bgnewssports.blogspot.com>

## SCHEDULE

## TODAY

Men's basketball:  
vs. Buffalo; 7 p.m.

## OUR CALL

## Today in Sports History

**1997**—NBA suspends Dennis Rodman indefinitely/\$25,000 for kicking cameraman.

**1916**—Professional Golfer Association (PGA) forms in NYC

## The List

In honor of LeBron's 51 point game against the Memphis Grizzlies, we bring you the top five MVP candidates

## 1. Kevin Garnett (BOS):

Boston's won everything else this season, why not add the NBA's Most Valuable Player award to the list

## 2. Chris Paul (NOR):

Think the Hawks regret passing on the very talented point guard out of Wake Forest in the 2005 draft

## 3. Kobe Bryant

(LAL):

If he's really the MVP, he will keep the Lakers above .500 with center Andrew Bynum on the shelf for eight weeks

## 4. LeBron James (CLE):

He missed five and a half games and the Cavaliers lost them all. Coincidence? He is the scoring leader but he kind of has to because of the rest of his teammates are so bad. Yes, we're talking to you Larry Hughes

## 5. Dwight Howard (ORL):

The man-child has evolved into the game's premier center. His team got off to a hot start but has kind of fizzled as of late. If they can make a run at the end of the season, D-12 will definitely be a leading

# Identity needed: offense

By Bill Bordewick  
Assistant Sports Editor



MILLER TIME: Nate Miller prepares to shoot in an earlier game against Morehead State.

Defense wins championships, but in order to win these championships, a team needs to have the ability to score at the other end.

BG has proven unable to sustain a consistent approach at the offensive end and it has been the team's downfall in a few games this season.

For the team to be successful, it will need to create more opportunities on the offensive side of the ball. BG's offense is what coach Louis Orr would call "a work in progress."

"We've put a lot of work into our defense — our rebounding, our physical toughness and intensity," Orr said.

The defense, the tenacity, the hustle — all of these intangibles are there but the team has to find a way to make it easier on itself to score.

They are holding teams to just 40 percent shooting on the year but are only shooting 43 percent themselves.

Couple this with the team shooting only 67 percent from the free throw line and turning the ball over 15 times a game, and they have made life tough on their ability to defend.

"For every team to be suc-

"For every team to be successful they need to have a foundation — an identity. I think we are building in that direction — we've been inconsistent, up and down. Our offense, especially of late, is an area of improvement."

Louis Orr | BG coach

cessful they need to have a foundation — an identity," Orr said. "I think we are building in that direction — we've been inconsistent, up and down. Our offense, especially of late, is an area of improvement."

In the last game against Kent State, the Falcons let the Flashes race out to a 12-point lead and the Falcons were never able to overcome the deficit.

For the rest of the game, the Falcons were only outscored by a margin of 51-49. It was a game that was decided by the Falcons inability to put the ball in the basket.

The ability to defend the basket, however, has not been a problem for the Falcons — as was evidenced by a total of eight blocked shots as a team.

No one was more apparent on the defensive end than Otis

Polk. The big man from Detroit had four blocks (a career high) and seven rebounds against the Flashes.

Polk's game has really started to develop in the recent weeks. He has averaged seven rebounds and 1.8 blocks per game over his last five contests.

Not known for his offense, Polk even posted 17 points against Duquesne.

Polk attributes this to his work put forth in practice.

"I've been working hard in practice on foot speed and my quickness — trying to stay out of foul trouble by keeping my hand off the defender," Polk said.

Foul trouble has been a problem for him since arriving at BG two years ago, but that may be changing as he played 31

See OFFENSE | Page 8

## High school trackster disqualified for outfit

WASHINGTON (AP) — A high school track star has been disqualified from a meet because officials said the custom-made outfit she wears to conform to her Muslim faith violated competition rules.

Juashaunna Kelly, a senior at the District of Columbia's Theodore Roosevelt High School, has the fastest mile and 2-mile times of any girl runner in the city this winter.

She was disqualified from Saturday's Montgomery Invitational indoor track and field meet.

Kelly was wearing the same uniform she has worn for three seasons while running for Theodore Roosevelt's cross-country and track teams. The custom-made, one-piece blue and orange unitard covers her head, arms, torso and legs. Over the unitard, she wears the same orange and blue T-shirt and shorts as her teammates.

The outfit allows her to compete while adhering to her Muslim faith, which forbids displaying any skin other than her face and hands.

"It's not special," Kelly said. "It doesn't make me perform better."



JOEL RICHARDSON | AP PHOTO

**DISQUALIFIED:** Juashaunna Kelly was disqualified from a recent track meet because she violated competition rules by wearing an outfit to conform to the Muslim religion.

But meet director Tom Rogers said Kelly's uniform violated rules of the National Federation of State

High School Associations, which

See KELLY | Page 8

## Falcons rout MAC rival Kent State 90-64

By Chris Voloschuk  
Sports Editor

Last night was a game for the record books for the BG women's basketball team.

The person breaking the records was senior guard Whitney Taylor. She posted a career-high 28 points and drained eight consecutive three-pointers to pace the Falcons to a 90-64 win over Kent State at the MAC Center.

Taylor's eight connections from behind the arc broke the BGSU single-game record for most threes made by a single player in a game.

The road win improved BG to 3-0 in Mid-American Conference play. The team is also currently riding a six-game winning streak. They've won eight of their last nine games overall. Their record on the season moved to 14-3.

Taylor was one of four BG players to score double-digit points. Fellow guards Kate Achter and Lindsey Goldsberry contributed 10 points a piece, and forward Lauren Prochaska added 14. Achter led the team in rebounds



## Whitney Taylor

Broke the BG single game record for three-pointers with eight.

Taylor's record-breaking effort. In the first half, they shot 84.6 percent from three-point range. In the second half, they shot 69.6 percent. Kent shot 25 percent in the first half and 50 in the second. BG also shot over 50 percent from the field for the entire game.

Paced by Taylor's 28 points, the Falcons won the bench scoring battle 44-18. They also won the rebounding war, 33-26. At one point in the second half, BG led by 41 points.

## Judge: 'I don't know, Mr. Simpson, what the heck you were thinking'



GARY THOMPSON | AP PHOTO

**JUICED?:** Judge Jackie Glass, angered by Simpson's contact with a co-defendant in the armed robbery case against him, doubled his bond to \$250,000 for violating his original bail.

By Ken Ritter  
The Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — An angry judge doubled O.J. Simpson's bail to \$250,000 yesterday for violating terms of his original bail by attempting to contact a co-defendant in the armed robbery case against him.

Simpson, clad in jail attire, grimaced as the amount was announced and meekly acknowledged that he understood.

"I don't know, Mr. Simpson, what the heck you were think-

ing — or maybe that's the problem — you weren't," District Judge Jackie Glass told Simpson during the hearing.

"I don't know if it's just arrogance. I don't know if it's ignorance. But you've been locked up at the Clark County Detention Center since Friday because of arrogance or ignorance — or both."

Glass said that the order to not contact other defendants was clear and she warned that if anything else happened Simpson would be locked up. She warned him against contacting anyone

else in the case, and barred him from leaving the country.

Simpson's attorney, Yale Galanter, said he did not know how long it would take for Simpson to post bail, but it could be a few days. Tom Scotto, a Simpson friend who owns an auto repair shop in Florida, said he and several other people were trying to get him freed by the end of the day.

The former football star was picked up Friday in Florida by his bail bondsman, Miguel Pereira of You Ring We Spring, and was brought back to Nevada for violating terms of his release.

The district attorney charged that Simpson left an expletive-laced phone message Nov. 16, telling Pereira to tell co-defendant Clarence "C.J." Stewart how upset Simpson was about testimony during their preliminary hearing.

"I just want, want C.J. to know that ... 'I'm tired of this [expletive]," Simpson was quoted as saying. "Fed up with [expletives] changing what they told me. All right?"

Galanter stipulated during the hearing that Simpson made the call, and the judge did not allow it to be played. But Galanter also

accused Pereira of providing Simpson's bail for the publicity.

Outside court, Galanter said the judge's decision was "appropriate, judicious, and correct," but insisted Simpson had not made an effort to contact the co-defendant. "Mr. Pereira is a piranha," Galanter said.

Simpson, Stewart and a third defendant, Charles Ehrlich, pleaded not guilty Nov. 28 to kidnapping, armed robbery, assault with a deadly weapon, burglary, coercion and conspiracy charges. A kidnapping conviction could bring a life sentence with the possibility of parole. An armed robbery conviction carries mandatory prison time.

Three other former co-defendants have pleaded to lesser charges and testified against Simpson at the preliminary hearing.

Simpson has denied any knowledge about guns being involved in the confrontation with memorabilia dealers Bruce Fromong and Alfred Beardsley. He has said he intended only to retrieve items that had been stolen from him by a former agent, including the suit he wore the

day he was acquitted of murder in 1995 in the slayings of his wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend, Ronald Goldman.



GARY THOMPSON | AP PHOTO

**DETAINED:** Simpson appeared in court yesterday in his jail outfit and his hands were handcuffed during the hearing.



## OFFENSE

From Page 7

minutes against Duquesne and played 24 minutes against the Flames and only picked up two fouls.

"He's just a presence," Orr said, speaking of Polk. "We watched tape of the Kent State game and he covered up for other people's mistakes — he had four blocks and probably altered another four to six shots."

Orr mentioned how Polk needed to refine his offensive game — a trait that can be attached to the Falcons as a whole on the offensive end.

The identity of this team is defense and they are a very talented defensive team, but work needs

## SCOUTING THE BULLS

**Depth:** Eleven players average 10 or more minutes.

**Not-so road warriors?** 0-6 on the road this season.

**Dishing it out:** Second in the MAC with 14.71 assists per game.

**On the glass:** Lead the MAC in rebounding.

to be done on the offensive end.

"Coach always talks about having an identity," Polk said. "He wants our identity to be toughness and playing defense — we pride ourselves a lot on playing defense."

The pride on the defensive side is definitely there, and now the execution on the offensive end needs to improve.

The improvement on offense may come from Polk himself.

If Polk can develop an offensive game, the team as a whole would start to gain an identity on both ends of the floor and not just on the side with their backs to the basket.

The sophomore has lost 15-20 pounds from last season and is down to 275-280 and would like to get down to 260 — which would be his ideal playing weight.

"He's just hitting the tip of the iceberg," Orr said. "A lot of it will depend on how much of a conditioned athlete he becomes."

It is a slow process and may not take place over night, but it is a process that needs to take place for the Falcons on the offensive end.

The team has Nate Miller averaging 13.6 points per game and Chris Knight posting 12.4 points per game and then there is huge drop off.

The next highest-scoring Falcon is Darryl Clements with 7.6 points per game.

They need to find that consistent third-scoring option on a nightly basis in order to be a successful offensive team.

Could it be Polk? Clements? A combination of both? Time will tell, but until then, the Falcons need to rely on its defense to win games — and hope they can find a way on the offensive end not to lose it.

## Russian Sharapova ousts Davenport in her

By John Pye

The Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — Maria Sharapova looked up and spotted a 7-month-old kid staring her down.

"I thought I saw her little kid giving me dirty looks," Sharapova said.

The boy, Jagger, was court-side. His mom, Lindsay Davenport, winner of three Grand Slam titles and with a 19-1 record since returning to the tour, was across the net.

Sharapova beat Davenport 6-1, 6-3 yesterday night to move into the third round of the Australian Open against a fellow Russian, Elena Vesnina.

"Tell you the truth, I approached it like it's a final," said Sharapova, straying from her 'one-match-at-a-time' mantra. "Ever since I took a peek at the draw and saw that Lindsay was second round."

Davenport was only five tournaments into a comeback after giving birth to Jagger last June. Still, Sharapova was preparing for a matchup worthy of the second week of a major.

"You probably don't get to see too many second rounds where you see two Grand Slams champions, former No. 1s playing against

each other," she said. "The build-up to the match, the excitement, the showtime — I love that. As an athlete, that's what you play for."

And that's probably what brought Davenport back.

"It was fun. The crowd was great. I wish I could've given them a little more to cheer for," the 31-year-old Californian said. "The key was starting off well, and I really didn't do that."

Sharapova never faced a break point. She broke for the fourth time when Davenport netted a forehand on second match point.

"I'm disappointed with the way this match went and this tournament went, but I have to look big picture at this point in my career," Davenport said. "So far it's gone pretty well the last few months."

Justine Henin could say the same about her time back on the tour after a marriage breakup that kept her from Melbourne last year. She dominated the rest of the 2007 season with a 63-4 record, including wins at the French and U.S. Opens.

Her 6-1, 7-5 victory over Russia's Olga Poutchkova yesterday extended the Belgian's streak to 30 consecutive wins since an upset semifinal loss to Marion Bartoli at Wimbledon.



RICK STEVENS | AP PHOTO

**OUSTED:** Maria Sharapova greets Lindsay Davenport after their match yesterday at the Australian Open. Sharapova defeated Davenport 6-1, 6-2 to move into the third round. She will meet fellow Russian Elena Vesnina in the next round.

No. 3 Jelena Jankovic, who had to save three match points in a 22-game third set in the first round, had a routine 6-2, 7-5 win over Edina Gallovits in the second round.

Serena Williams made a comeback of her own last year, capturing

an eighth Grand Slam title with an emphatic victory over Sharapova in the Australia Open final only three weeks after one of her worst career losses in a tournament at Hobart. She was ranked No. 81 and was only the second unseeded woman to win

a Grand Slam title.

Now ranked No. 7, she's growing in confidence for an Australian title defense. She improved her record to 25-1 in her five most recent trips to Melbourne Park with a 6-3, 6-1 win over China's Yuan Meng.

## KELLY

From Page 7

sanctioned the event. Uniforms are required to be "a single-solid color and unadorned, except for a single school name or insignia no more than 2 1/4 inches," he said.

Rogers said that he knew Kelly was wearing the uniform for religious reasons and that he offered her several options to conform to the rules while still respecting her faith, including placing a plain T-shirt over her unitard and then wearing her team uniform over it.

Kelly's mother, Sarah, and Roosevelt Coach Tony Bowden disputed that account.

They said officials made several demands of her daughter before Rogers made his decision.

"First, they said she had to take her hood off," Sarah Kelly said. "Then, they said she can't have anything with logos displayed. Then, they said she had to turn it inside out. When I told them that there weren't any logos on it, they said she had to put a plain white T-shirt on over it."

Juashaunna Kelly has worn the same uniform for three years

"First they said she had to take her hood off. Then, they said she can't have anything with logos displayed. Then, they said she had to turn it inside out. When I told them that there weren't any logos on it, they said she had to put a plain white T-shirt on over it."

Sarah Kelly | Kelly's mother

without any problems, including at last year's Montgomery Invitational. Rogers said officials must have missed the uniform last year.

"It wasn't a problem last year, and it's a problem this year? Make me understand why," Bowden said.

## Durham, N.C., fires back at lacrosse players

By Aaron Beard

The Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — The city of Durham says it should be dropped from a lawsuit filed by three former Duke lacrosse players wrongly accused of rape, saying the plaintiffs were overreaching in an effort to put taxpayers on the hook for a prosecutor's mistakes.

In its response to the former players' federal lawsuit against it and several other defendants, the city said it had no responsibility for disgraced former district attorney Mike Nifong's actions, or for the DNA laboratory that conducted key testing in the case.

The response, filed Tuesday and publicly posted in a federal court database yesterday, said that since Nifong's employer, the state of North Carolina, has immunity, the plaintiffs were making "overreaching conspiracy claims and other novel legal theories" in an effort to make Durham, city administrators and police officers liable.

"All this creativity is in aid of an effort to impose on Durham taxpayers untold millions of dollars in damages for Plaintiffs who were publicly exonerated and never spent a moment in jail," the filing said.

The lawsuit filed in October by the former players, Reade Seligmann, Collin Finnerty and Dave Evans, accuses Nifong, Durham, police investigators and others of conducting "one of the most chilling episodes of premeditated police, prosecutorial and scientific misconduct in modern American history."

The players were accused of raping a woman hired to perform as a stripper at a lacrosse team party in March 2006, but were cleared more than a year later by state prosecutors who took special care to call them innocent of the allegations.

The lawsuit seeks unspecified punitive and compensatory damages, attorneys fees and numerous reforms to the way the Durham Police Department handles criminal investigations.

Nifong was disbarred for more than two dozen violations of the North Carolina State Bar's rules of professional conduct in the case. He ultimately spent one night in jail for lying to a judge during a hearing in the case during the fall of 2006.

On Tuesday, he filed for bankruptcy, citing more than \$180 million in potential liabilities. That includes \$30 million for each of three exonerated play-

ers, and \$30 million for each of three unindicted players who sued Nifong and dozens of others, claiming they inflicted emotional distress.

The two Durham police investigators who handled the case — Investigator Benjamin Himan and Sgt. Mark Gottlieb — also filed responses Tuesday that were posted yesterday. They claimed immunity and pointed a finger at Nifong, saying they reported complete results of their investigations to him and that he had the responsibility to make sure defense attorneys received all necessary information.

That information included the results of DNA testing that found genetic material from several unidentified males, but none from a lacrosse player, on the accuser and her undergarments — information that was not provided to the defense for nearly six months, and only then in the form of nearly 2,000 pages of raw test data.

In their own responses to the lawsuit, the DNA lab and Nifong's chief investigator also said responsibility rested with the former district attorney. The deadline for responding to the lawsuit was Tuesday, but no response from Nifong had been posted by yesterday.

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Julie Broadwell

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**Junjo (PG-13):** (1:20) 4:20 7:20 (10:05)  
**First Sunday (PG-13):** No passes (1:45) 4:45 7:45 (10:20)  
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**CARBON:** Trucks make their way out of Houston on Interstate 10, Monday. Texans' fondness for large, manly vehicles has helped make the Lone Star State the biggest producer of greenhouse gases in the nation.

## Texas means more pollution

By April Castro  
The Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — Everything's big in Texas — big pickup trucks, big SUVs and the state's big carbon footprint, too.

Texans' fondness for large, manly vehicles has helped make the Lone Star State the biggest carbon polluter in the nation.

The headquarters state of America's oil industry spewed 670 million metric tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere in 2003, enough that Texas would rank seventh in the world if it were its own country, according to the most recent figures from the U.S. Energy Information Administration. The amount is more than that of California and Pennsylvania — the second- and third-ranking states — combined.

A multitude of factors contrib-

**"I think it's the idea that in Texas, everything is bigger. I grew up here, and I think it's pretty cool."**

Anthony Nguyen | Berkeley student

ute to the carbon output, among them: Texas' 19 coal-burning power plants; a heavy concentration of refineries and chemical plants; a lack of mass transit; and a penchant among ranchers and urban cowboys alike for brawny, gas-guzzling trucks — sometimes to haul things, but often just to look Texas tough.

Debbie Howden, an Austin real estate agent, said her family of six has two pickup trucks,

three SUVs, and no apologies. "I would definitely put size and safety over the emissions thing," said Howden, 55. She calls their high fuel bills a "necessary evil."

Anthony Nguyen attended the famously liberal University of California at Berkeley but drives a black Nissan Frontier pickup handed down from his dad, a liquor store owner near Houston. Nguyen said his father hauled liquor around in the truck, but he admitted he has no practical use for its large bed.

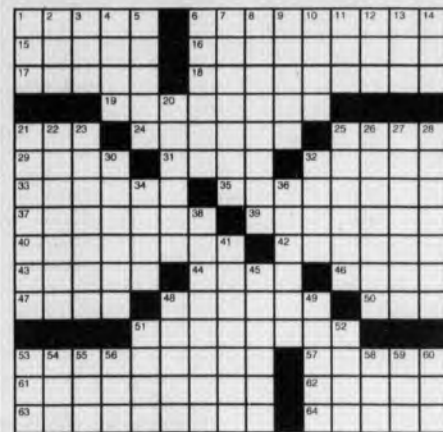
"I think it's the idea that in Texas, everything is bigger," said Nguyen, 20. "I grew up here, and I think it's pretty cool."

While states such as like California and New York are moving quickly to address global warming, the issue has prompted only scattered calls for reforms here.

## The Daily Crossword Fix

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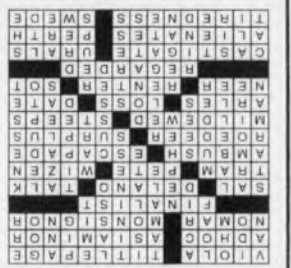
### ACROSS

- 1 One of the strings
- 6 Book opener
- 15 Like temporary committees
- 16 Anatolia
- 17 Slugger Garciaparra
- 18 Greene novel, "Quixote"
- 19 Last round participant
- 21 Mineo of "Rebel Without a Cause"
- 24 FDR center
- 25 Speak
- 29 Londoner's streetcar
- 31 Rose or Sampras
- 32 Dry up
- 33 Surprise attack
- 35 Lark
- 37 Eurasian ruminant
- 39 Excess
- 40 Fungi infested
- 42 Saturates
- 43 Van Gogh location
- 44 Defeat
- 46 Oasis fruit
- 47 \_\_\_-do-well
- 48 Tenant
- 50 Drunkard
- 51 Looked at
- 53 Criticize severely
- 57 Russian range
- 61 Estranges
- 62 City in Scotland or Australia
- 63 Fatigue
- 64 Borg or Sorenstam

- 1 Moving vehicle
- 2 Altar sentence
- 3 Resistance measure
- 4 Bread buy
- 5 Bitter
- 6 Mexican menu item
- 7 Quarantine
- 8 Minuteness
- 9 Roper's rope
- 10 Give off
- 11 Slovenly person
- 12 \_\_\_ Arbor, MI
- 13 Ooze
- 14 "To \_\_\_ is human..."
- 20 Sister's son
- 21 John Carpenter movie of 1984
- 22 Ornate wardrobe
- 23 "On My Own" singer Patti
- 25 Handed out gratuities
- 26 Flowering shrubs
- 27 Began with preliminary remarks
- 28 Israel's parliament
- 30 Good wet ground
- 32 Viral lump
- 34 Visualizes
- 36 Uttered bad words
- 38 Send into exile
- 41 Gives
- 45 On-the-job malady
- 48 One of Lear's daughters
- 49 Stays in the military
- 51 Melon coat
- 52 Attracted
- 53 Hep dude
- 54 Will Smith title role
- 55 Title of respect
- 56 Golf gadget
- 58 Exist
- 59 Inc. in England
- 60 That ship

DOWN

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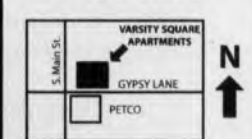
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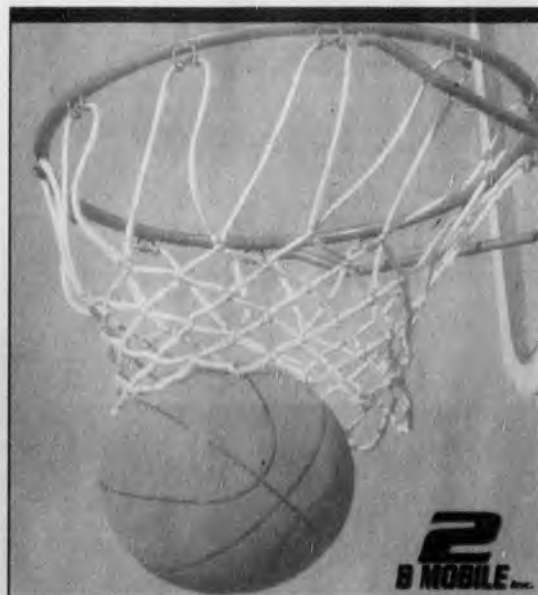
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